From: WILLIAM WEST To: Mike Powell

Date: Sat, Apr 5, 2003 4:52 PM

Subject: OWNERSHIP OF MULTIPLE RADIO/TV STATIONS

DEAR REP. POWELL:

IAM VISUALLY IMPAIRED. ILISTEN TO A LOT OF RADIO. IN THE PAST 5 - 10 YEARS, CONGLOMERATES ARE BUYING UP RADIO STATIONS.

HERE IN WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA I USED TO GET 25 OR 30 RADIO STATIONS (SOME SUPER 50,000 WATT STATIONS) ALL WITH THEIR OWN PROGRAMMING. NOW I GET 5 OR 6. ALL THE REST CARRY THE SAME THING. RUSH LIMBAUGH, COAST TO COAST AM, SEVERAL TALK SHOW HOSTS AT DIFFERENTTIME FRAMES.

PLEASE PROTECT THE LISTENING PUBLIC FROM SOME COMPANY EATING UP THE AIR WAYS WITH ALL THE DUPLICATE BROADCASTS. PERHAPS LIMIT THEM TO LOCALITIES SO THE LISTENING PUBLIC CAN HAVE SOME CHOICES.

THANK YOU

WILLIAM WEST

From: Jerry Juhl
To: Michael Copps

Date: Sat, Apr 5, 2003 5:56 PM

Subject: Stop Consolidation of Media Ownership

I am writing to urge you to oppose attempts to eliminate restrictions on the number of television andlor radio stations that one company may own. We need more diversity in programming, not less.

Jerry R. Juhl Box 99 45350 Pacifica Drive Caspar, CA 95420 From: Lycaon pictus To: Michael Copps

Date: Sat, Apr 5,2003 11:00 PM

Subject: media deregulation

Dear Mr. Copps,

We want to thank you for your efforts to stop the proposed deregulation of the media industry. It is extremely important that the public be made aware of the proposed changes and be given the opportunity to debate. We strongly feel that this is one of the most important issues facing Americans today. Independent news coverage is crucial to maintain a democracy. More people need to learn about this. Again, thank you for your effort.

Sincerely,

Kim McCreery, Ph.D. & Robert Robbins, Ph.D.

P.S. We sent an email to Mr. Powell to register our protest.

From: Rezzonator@aol.com

To: Michael Copps

Date: Sun, Apr 6, 2003 12 48 AM

Subject: Re: FCC rulings.

Dear Commissioner Copps,

Please let this letter serve as my formal complaint and objection to any pending FCC rulings which may lift restriction's on mergers between TV broadcast networks and the number of local TV or radio stations owned by one company. Such deregulation threatens to further stifle the diversify of programming for consumers, advertisers and producers. One of the main charges of the FCC is to promote diversity, which doesn't just refer to people of color, it refers to many different types of programming. We applaud you Commissioner Copps for attempting to draw attention to this problem. I would like to go on record as being opposed to increased or further media deregulation and wish for you to act on my behalf and STOP further media deregulation.

Respectfullyyours,

Michael J. McEvoy Composer 2802 Westmoreland Drive Nshville, TN. 37212

http://www.michaeljmcevoy.com

From: Kaitlin Davis To: Michael Copps

Date: Sun, Apr 6, 2003 11:42 AM

Broadcasting company restrictions Subject:

Dear Mr. Copps,

I was recently watching a PBS news broadcast, on a show called "Now", about the FCC and its consideration of removing or changing some regulations which now limit large broadcasting companies' ability to expand. It disturbs me greatly that this may be allowed to happen. I think that if these broadcasting companies are allowed to become monopolies it would threaten the liberty of my people, the American people. I greatly value the freedom of the press and I think that no one should be able to threaten that freedom, even the press itself.

I greatly appreciate your time and would greatly appreciate a response.

Thank you, Kaitlin Davis

Madison, WI resident

From: lamtoadie@aol.com
To: Michael Copps

Date: Sun, Apr 6,2003 1:47 **PM**

Subject: FCC Deregulation

Dear Commissioner Copps,

Please let this letter **serve** as my formal complaint and objection to any pending FCC rulings which may lift restrictions on mergers between broadcast networks and the number of local N or radio stations owned by one company. Such deregulation threatens to further stifle the diversity of programming for consumers, advertisers and producers. One of the main charges of the FCC is to promote diversity, which doesn't just refer to people of color, it refers to many different types of programming. We applaud you Commissioner Copps for attempting to draw attention to this problem.

I would like to go on record as being opposed to increased or further media deregulation and wish for you to act on my behalf and STOP further media deregulation.

Respectfully yours,

Judith Anderson Morris iamtoadie@aol.com

From: lamtoadie@aol.com

To: Mike Powell

Date: Sun, Apr 6,2003 1:51 PM

Subject: FCC Deregulation

Please let this letter serve as my formal complaint and objection to any pending FCC rulings which may lift restrictions on mergers between TV broadcast networks and the number of local TV or radio stations owned by one company.

Such deregulation threatens to further stifle the diversity of programming for consumers, advertisers and producers. One of the main charges of the FCC is to promote diversity. Diversity doesn't just refer to people of color, it refers to many different types of programming.

I would like to go on record as being opposed to increased or further media deregulation

Respectfully yours,

Judith Anderson Morris 2284 Ashley River Road Charleston, SC 29414

CC: Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

From:

Phunkazz98@aol.com

To:

Michael Copps

Date:

Sun, Apr 6, 2003 4:01 PM

Subject:

(no subject)

Dear Commissioner Copps,

Please let this letter serve as my formal complaint and objection to any pending FCC rulings which may lift restriction's on mergers between TV broadcast networks and the number of local N o r radio stations owned by one company. Such deregulation threatens to further stifle the diversity of programming for consumers, advertisers and producers. One of the main charges of the FCC is to promote diversity, which doesn't just refer to people of color, it refers to many different types of programming. We applaud you Commissioner Copps for attempting to draw attention to this problem. I would like to go on record as being opposed to increased or further media deregulation and wish for you to act on my behalf and STOP further media deregulation.

Respectfully yours,

David DesRoches

From: michaelpollock@angelfire.com

To: Mike Powell

Date: Sun, Apr 6, 2003 4:54 PM

Subject: Increase Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, N station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that **use** local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. These changes need public comment.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not **less**, about proposed changes would *serve* the public interest. Indeed. we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible

Sincerely.

Michael Pollock 5100 Timmons Drive Durham, North Carolina 27713 **From:** michaelpollock@angelfire.com

To: Michael Copps

Date: Sun, Apr 6, 2003 4:54 PM

Subject: Increase Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. These changes need public comment.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not less, about proposed changes would serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

Sincerely,

Michael Pollock 5100 Timmons Drive Durham, North Carolina 27713

MURRAY CHARLES

Michael Copps

Sun, Apr 6, 2003 5:48 PM

From: To: Date: Subject: Subject:

proposed new media ownership rules

We are opposed to any relaxation of FCC media ownership rules.

Thank you. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Murray McAlien, Texas 78504

From: Kernrandazzo@aol.com

To: Michael Copps

Date: Sun, Apr 6.2003 8:00 PM Subject: Broadcast Ownership

I am very concerned about the movement to consolidate media companies. In a democracy, news and coverage of issues needs to be generated from diverse sources in order to reflect broad perspectives. The airwaves belong to the public and should be utilized to serve the American people, not the profits of large corporations. It is important to keep the media ownership and the political system as separate as possible. Please potect the consumers.

From: Juel B Edwards
To: Michael Copps

Date: Sun, Apr 6, 2003 10:51 PM

Subject: Media Monopolies

I am writtmg to give you encouragement in opposing the pending changes in FCC regulations which would in an alarming manner give large media "moguls" even more power over OUR radio waves and newspapers. It is our, the public's, belief that the news media is already too concentrated in very few hands and is subject to thought control by the powerful owners. We need more independent news outlets not more concentration of power in the hands of the few. Every news paper in the country looks and reads as if it came from the same opinionated source. We need a return to independent thought embodied in many little papers around he country so that people do not become just propagandized rather than informed. One definite step in the right direction would be to LOWER POSTAL RATES on every low circulation paper and journal which is not connected with the large media conglomerates. Let the big rich papers pay more in order to level it out. Every viewpoint deserves to be heard in these days of dangerous government propagandizing. We citizens will support you in your opposition to the power-grab by the estabished media monopoly....Juel B. Edwards of Belvedere, S.C.

http://community.webtv.netlJuelBEdwards/JuelJanetsFamilies

From: BENJAMIN QUATRANO

To: Michael Copps

Date: Mon, Apr 7,2003 9:47 AM

Subject: Media Monopoly

Dear Mr. Copps,

We support you in your endeavor to stand in the way of the drive to dismantle the FCC's newspaper-broadcastcross-ownership rules, which prohibit media giants from owning both newspapers and broadcasting outlets in the same communities.

Do not waiver from this position. Thank you very much

Ben Quatrano Clearwater FL

Pax et Bonum

From:

Beth Lux

To:

Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps. Commissioner Adelstein

Date:

Mon, Apr 7,2003 10:04 AM

Subject:

deregulation

Good Morning,

I am writing as a concerned citizen. I am urging you to allow more public input before making a decision regarding how many stations a particular company can own. Please consider that currently only a handful of major companies own the majority of the networks/cable stations in addition to owning radio stations and newspapers. Take Viacom for instance. If you look to see exactly how much of the media that one company owns you should be disturbed. It means that most of my news and information is coming from one source. I have to search far and wide to find objective information and with the future of NPR at risk, my choices will be slim to nothing. Please, I urge you to carefully consider what the future may hold for us if ultimately ALL MEDIA could be owned by one company.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely yours, Beth A. Lux

Beth A. Lux

Protect your PC -get McAfee.com Virusscan Online http://clinicmcafee.com/clinic/ibuy/campaign.asp?cid=3963

From:

Beth Lux

To:

Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, Commissioner Adelstein

Date:

Mon, Apr 7, 2003 10:04 AM

Subject:

deregulation

Good Morning,

I am writing as a concerned citizen. I am urging you to allow more public input before making a decision regarding how many stations a particular company can own. Please consider that currently only a handful of major companies own the majority of the networks/cable stations in addition to owning radio stations and newspapers. Take Viacom for instance. If you look to see exactly how much of the media that one company owns you should be disturbed. It means that most of my news and information is coming from one source. I have to search far and wide to find objective informationand with the future of NPR at risk, my choices will be slim to nothing. Please, I urge you to carefully consider what the future may hold for us if ultimately **ALL** MEDIA could be owned by one company.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely yours, Beth A. **Lux**

Beth A. Lux

Protect your PC - get McAfee.com Virusscan Online http://clinic.mcafee.com/clinidibuy/campaign.asp?cid=3963

From: Susan Nordin To: Mike Powell

Date: Mon, Apr 7, 2003 12:35 PM Subject: FCC media ownership rules

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to express concern about the plans to relax media ownership rules, and to urge you to hold more public forums on the issue. My concern is that the majority of people in this country are unaware of this issue, and that concentration of media ownership may have deleterious effects on access to accurate information. As you are aware, there are currently only six major companies who own most of the media. How can their corporate interests not pursuade what they choose to report on, etc? My belief is that broad dialogue and diverse opinions and voices are a necessary part of a democratic society. I cannot see how that will be promoted by further relaxing the FCC rules. Please consider this as more than a corporate issue.

I appreciate your time and attention

Sincerely, Susan Nordin, MD

CC: Kathleen Abernathy

From: FREDRIC CLARK
To: Michael Copps

Date: Mon, Apr 7, 2003 1:25 PM Subject: Media Consolidation

- --- FREDRIC CLARK
- --- foclark@teleport.com
- --- EarthLink: The #1 provider of the Real Internet.

Why are we so intent, in the USA, on promoting stupidity? How is it possible to believe that everything will work out for the best when most of the relevant information presented by the media is skewed (or simply left out) due to pressure being applied by special interest groups? Much of the information that lends itself to moving mankind closer to a more refined civilization are simply choked off. American leadership (Federal and corporate) has an incredible paranoiac aversion to the concept of open honest Dialogue (On Dialogue, by David Bohm quantum physicist). The elitist have no faith in the consensus mind nor are they well versed in early American history or, perhaps they are and that is what they fear • justice. Think about it, when do people need to apply morally offensive pressure on anyone? When so many lies have been woven into the fabric of life what do we become?

I know of no safe depository of the ultimate powers of society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take from them, but to inform their discretion by education.

Thomas Jefferson.

Im a retired High school math instructor. And thank God Im no longer teaching, because I could not face students with the lies I would need to toss around these days. I spent years being a Future Problem Solver coach and today I would probably be dismissed for being too radical (just using information that we know today) in my approach. Life is so dammed interesting it is amazing to me how cheap the mass media can portray it. The media treat the public like they are morons of which filtrates all the way down into the educational system. I doubt that the visions for greatness that was thoughtfully designed into the American Constitution will ever be realized by swimming in a morass of chicanery.

NO! ABSOLUTELY NOT! Ido not think we need any more consolidation. In fact, the rules need to be backed up to pre 1996 standards. There also needs to be a separate legal system for reporters and writers in which juries are composed of randomly selected peers (reporters and writers), without interference from the opposing party lawyers, primarily to determine if proper research procedures were utilized and the conclusions are reasonable. Honesty, integrity, knowledge, truth and etc. are fundamentally being corrupted by money and ego- oriented power. The jury verdict will be tabulated by secret ballot so as to minimize the effects of power molesters. Something needs to be done to keep the power mongers from cheating and lying and at the same time being able to punish the messenger for telling the truth using even more lies.

From: Blbackal@aoi.com

To: Mike Powell

Date: Mon, Apr 7,2003 2:10 PM

Subject: Media Ownership

We strongly urge you to keep the current rules on media ownership to preserve diversity of content and protect local programming.

Please do not take action hastily on this matter, in which every American has a stake.

The Backal family

From: kuhnfamily.ca@verizon.net

To: Mike Powell

Date: Mon, Apr 7,2003 2:24 PM

Subject: Preserve Our Patriotism: Change the FCC Rulemaking

FCC Chairman Michael **K.** Powell 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely help our country from the Nazi controlled Communist attitudes of the Liberal and Democrats currently in office through out the nation.

The media ownership rules are issued in final form, the anti-american liberal cannot have the opportunity to review, destroy and make any specific changes the Commission plans.

If media ownership rules are to be fairly created, the anti-american liberals and democrats could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will give the opportunity for leagal deviants to alter the Commission and prevent them from seeing the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to prevent the anti-american movement from forcing anyone to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information for the terrorists about proposed changes would destroy the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking in the best interest of the Americans that make this country great. Not the anti-americans liberals/communists trying to destroy it.

Sincerely,

Rich Kuhn 2504 **S.** Brunswick Dr. Santa Maria. California 93455 From: kuhnfamily.ca@verizon.net

To: Michael Copps

Date: Mon, Apr 7,2003 2:24 PM

Subject: Preserve Our Patriotism: Change the FCC Rulemaking

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely help our country from the Nazi controlled Communist attitudes of the Liberal and Democrats currently in office through out the nation.

The media ownership rules are issued in final form, the anti-american liberal cannot have the opportunity to review, destroy and make any specific changes the Commission plans.

If media ownership rules are to be fairly created, the anti-american liberals and democrats could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will give the opportunity for leagal deviants to alter the Commission and prevent them from seeing the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to prevent the anti-american movement from forcing anyone to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes before a final rule is issued

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information for the terrorists about proposed changes would destroy the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking in the best interest of the Americans that make this country great. Not the anti-americans liberals/communists trying to destroy it.

Sincerely,

Rich Kuhn 2504 **S.** Brunswick Dr. Santa Maria, California 93455 From:

To: Michael Copps

Date: Mon, Apr 7, 2003 3:14 PM Subject: Objection to FCC Rukings

Dear Commissioner Copps, mcopps@fcc.gov

Please let this letter serve as my formal complaint and objection to

any pending FCC rulings which may lift restriction's on mergers between

 ${m N}$ broadcast networks and the number of local ${m N}$ or radio stations owned

by one company. Such deregulation threatens to further stifle the

diversity of programming for consumers, advertisers and producers. One of

the main

charges of the FCC is to promote diversity, which doesn't just refer to

people of color, it refers to many different types of programming. We

applaud you Commissioner Copps for attempting to draw attention to this

problem. I would like to go on record as being opposed to increased or further media deregulation and wish for you to

act on my behalf and STOP further media deregulation. Let's face it: with current concerns with business collusion and monopoly, it should be an easy decision to deny this legislation which will allow the same to occur in our creative media. Entertainment is a business, and is just as important (if not more so) to the economy as the myriad of energy and technology corporations that have seen problems of stagnation and illegal activity. Why should we be any **less** concerned with media?

Respectfully yours,

J. Honea someone-lurking@yahoo.com

Do you Yahoo!?

Yahoo! Tax Center - File online, calculators, forms, and more http://ltax.yahoo.com

From: Nancy Kreml
To: Nancy Kreml
Michael Copps

Date: Mon, Apr 7,2003 3:27 **PM**

Subject: FFC hearings on media ownership

Dear Commissioner Copps:

I urge the FCC to have more hearings on the issue of ownership of media outlets. I oppose the monoply of the airwaves by a few large corporations, and believe the public has the right to have time to become educated and spread the information on this issue.

Nancy Kreml 111 Southwood Dr. Columbia, SC 29205 From:

joboes@email.com

To:

, Kathleen Abernathy

Date:

Mon, Apr 7, 2003 4:15 PM

Subject:

Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not less, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

Sincerely,

John Bonfatti 268 **Norwood** Ave. Buffalo, New York **14222** From: DeeAnn Grummett

To: Commissioner Adelstein, Kathleen Abernathy. Michael Copps. KM KJMWEB

Date: Mon, Apr 7, 2003 4:49 PM

Subject: Fw: Proposed change on media concentration regulations

Commissioners Abernathy, Copps, Martin, Adelstein;

I am forwarding a copy of my opinion message to Commissioner Powell to express my opposition to the proposed changes on media concentration. I do acknowledge the efforts of Commissions Copps and Adelstein to provide some public education and discourse on this important issue, but it is woefully insufficient.

D. Grumrnett

---Subject: Proposed change on media concentration regulations

Commissioner Powell:

This is to express my strong opposition to further concentration of the media by relaxing the current regulations. Your job is to ensure real diversity, meaningful competition and protection of local media. Rather, your focus appears to be to assist the huge corporations with their quest to undermine a truly free media in their selfish pursuit of profit. Your claims that huge amounts of capital are necessary to provide good news are untrue and are leading to this dangerous concentration of power over news dissemination. The very proof of this fact is the (1) failure of most of the major television outlets to cover this important story at all and (2) the failure of the FCC to ensure a meaningful opportunity for the public to comment on these changes through full media coverage and numerous hearings throughout the country.

It is an absolute conflict of interest for you and other members to accept ANY financial assistance, gifts or benefits such as travel, lodging etc.. from those for whom you are responsible to provide OBJECTIVE oversight.

D. Grummett Juneau, Alaska From:

jules@igc.org

To:

Kathleen Abernathy

Date:

Mon, Apr 7, 2003 5:30 PM

Subject:

Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not less, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in **its** power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

Sincerely,

Julie Light 319A Moultrie St. San Francisco, California 94110